

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration REGION IX Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Guam American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands 201 Mission Street Suite 2210 San Francisco, CA 94105-1839 415-744-3133 415-744-2726 (fax)

JUL 23 2003

Mr. Jim Nicholas Chief, Division of Transportation Programming California Department of Transportation 1120 N Street Sacramento, CA 94273-0001

> Re: SJCOG 2002/03 – 2004/05 FTIP Amendments No. 10-11

Dear Mr. Nicholas:

We have completed our review of the San Joaquin Council of Governments' (SJCOG) 2002/2003 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendments 10-11 submitted by your letter dated July 2, 2003. SJCOG adopted these amendments on May 2, 2003. This amendment adds two new projects for operating assistance and a rail maintenance facility, using Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 and 5309 New Start funds respectively.

We accept this Amendment in accordance with 23 CFR 450 and find that this FSTIP amendment was developed based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process. The changes made to the program by this amendment are exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be performed (40 CFR §93.126 and/or 40 CFR §93.127).

This finding has been coordinated with the Division Office of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding on single mode TIP Amendments dated March 8, 1996.

This letter also constitutes approval and inclusion of Amendments No. 10-11 into California's 2003/05 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) with the understanding that FTA funding approval of projects is subject to the grantees meeting the necessary administrative requirements. Our approval is based on Caltran's assurance that the funding for these projects does not adversely impact the FSTIP Financial Plan.

Sincerely,

Leslie I. Rogers
Regional Administra

Regional Administrator

Julia E. Greene, SJCOG Diane Grindall, SJCOG Steven Barhite, EPA Muhaned Aljabiry, Caltrans Mayela Sosa, FHWA